

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 023390

O R 171756Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9330

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18116

EXDIS

LISBON, MADRID: FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

THE HAGUE ALSO FOR UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSEN

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL: GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, US, EEC, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN AFTERMATH OF NATO

MINISTERIAL AND COPENHAGEN EC SUMMIT

1. IN DEC 17 DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR ON EC SUMMIT

SECRET

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(SEPTTEL), FONOFF POL DIRECTOR VAN WELL WAS IN EXCEEDING-
LY SOMBER AND DEPRESSED MOOD CONCERNING PRESENT STATE
OF AND IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS FOR U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS.
UNLIKE CAUTIOUSLY UPBEAT REACTION WE OBTAINED LAST WEEK
FROM FONOFF WORKING LEVEL (BONN 17976), VAN WELL SAID

NATO MINISTERIAL "WAS INCONCLUSIVE AND HAD NOT CLEARED THE AIR." BRITAIN AND FRANCE REMAINED IRRITATED AT BEING EXCLUDED FROM GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE AND THE NINE WERE IN STATE OF DEJECTION BY SEEMING HELPLESSNESS IN FACE OF EVER WORSENING DIMENSIONS OF OIL CRISIS. VAN WELL TOLD AMBASSADOR HE FEARED THAT "DEFENSE AREA ALSO COULD BE AFFECTED" IF U.S./EUROPEAN CONTRETEMPS DRAGGED ON AND TEMPER BECAME INCREASINGLY RAGGED.

2. AS TO U.S./EC RELATIONS, VAN WELL SAID SOME EC-9 MEMBER STATES HAD GAINED IMPRESSION THAT THE SECRETARY WAS NO LONGER INTERESTED IN THE EC DECLARATION. THESE EC STATES, INCLUDING FRANCE AND BRITAIN, INTERPRETED SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AT QUADRIPARTITE DINNER AND MEETING WITH NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS AS VEILED EXPRESSION OF DISINTEREST. OTHER EC STATES, INCLUDING FRG, HOPED U.S. DID WISH TO CONTINUE EFFORT TO COMPLETE EC DECLARATION, IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT IN NATO MINISTERIAL SPEECH AND IN MEETING WITH NINE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS. THESE EC STATES THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE WORTH-WHILE TO EXPLORE U.S. CONCEPT OF SHORTER AND MORE POLITICAL RATHER THAN LEGALIZED TYPE OF DECLARATION. BUT VAN WELL SAID THAT EVEN THE GERMANS AND THOSE WHO SHARE THEIR IMPRESSION ARE CONFUSED AS TO WHAT THE U.S. REALLY WISHES TO DO REGARDING EC DECLARATION.

3. VAN WELL SAID HE FULLY SHARED JUDGMENT OF SIR ALEC THAT IT WOULD BE "VERY BAD" FOR U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS SHOULD EC DECLARATION EXERCISE BE TERMINATED. DESPITE DIFFICULTIES IN YEAR OF EUROPE, CONSIDERABLE GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC SUPPORT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE NINE COUNTRIES FOR DECLARATIONS. ABORTION

SECRET

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53

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 023380

O R 171756Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9331

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
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AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18116

EXDIS

OF EC DECLARATION PROJECT ALSO MIGHT HAVE FALLOUT ON ATLANTIC DECLARATION. AND WITH VITALITY AND EFFICACY OF BOTH EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ALLIANCE CURRENTLY UNDER CLOUD IN PUBLIC EYE, AND ECONOMICS BEING SEVERELY THREATENED BY MIDEAST OIL CRISIS, ABRUPT ENDING OF EC DECLARATION PROJECT COULD IN VAN WELL'S VIEW BE MOST UNFORTUNATE.

4. VAN WELL SAID CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND FONMIN SCHEEL HAD MADE CLEAR THEIR WISH THAT BONN USE ITS PRESIDENCY OF EC, STARTING JAN 1, 1974, TO INTENSIFY U.S./EC

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CONTACTS. VAN WELL SAID DANES HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO MOVE WITHOUT EXPLICIT WRITTEN MANDATES FROM THE NINE, BUT CHANCELLOR AND FONMIN WISHED VAN WELL TO INTERPRET PRESIDENCY'S POWERS MORE GENEROUSLY ON THIS SCORE. WITH NEXT POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING DUE JAN 10-11 IN BONN, ECONOMIC PARAGRAPHS OF EC DECLARATION NOW IN HANDS OF DANISH PRESIDENT FROM PERM REPS AND DANES UNLIKELY TO TAKE ANY FURTHER STEPS, VAN WELL TOLD AMBASSADOR HE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION REGARDING U.S. WISHES ON EC DECLARATION.

5. COMMENT: VAN WELL'S MOOD MAY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY HIS OBVIOUS PHYSICAL WEARINESS AFTER MONTHS OF STRENUOUS PERSONAL DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY. HE IS NORMALLY AN UP-BEAT OFFICIAL.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN18116
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750029-2105
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731256/abqceehn.tel
Line Count: 156
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN BONN
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN AFTERMATH OF NATO MINISTERIAL AND COPENHAGEN EC SUMMIT
TAGS: PEPR, US, GE
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO VIENNA
ANKARA
ATHENS
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
THE HAGUE

LONDON
OSLO
OTTAWA
PARIS
ROME
GENEVA
NATO BRUSSELS
EC BRUSSELS
LISBON
MADRID

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005